Serial number:

10/749,105

First Applicant: Examiner:

Carlos Vonderwalde Kathleen C. Sonnet

Response to Office Action dated January 30, 2007

Date of Response: May 15, 2007

Filing date: December 29, 2003 Attorney Docket: 28780 Group Art Unit: 3731

In the Claims:

1-79 (Cancelled)

- 80. (Currently Amended) A method of making a stent assembly comprising:
- a) providing a stent including a substantially tubular stent body with a first stent end, a second stent end and at least two cover connectors associated with said stent body, each said cover connector including at least one penetrating element;
- b) contacting a sheet of material with a surface of said stent body so that a first edge of said sheet is in proximity of a second edge of said sheet so as to form a substantially tubular stent cover; and
- c) piercing said sheet with said penetrating elements so that said penetrating elements penetrate through said sheet so as to secure said sheet to said stent-

wherein said sheet is rolled up so that said first edge of said sheet substantially abuts said second edge of said sheet, wherein at least two of said cover connectors include two penetrating elements, and wherein said piercing causes a first penetrating element of each of said two cover connectors to penetrate through said sheet in proximity of said first edge and a second penetrating element of each of said two cover connectors to penetrate through said sheet in proximity of said second edge.

- 81. (previously presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said sheet is contacted with an inner surface of said stent body.
- 82. (previously presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said sheet is contacted with an outer surface of said stent body.
 - 83. (previously presented) The method of claim 80, further comprising:
 - d) bending a portion of said penetrating elements penetrating through said sheet over said sheet.

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84. (previously presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said sheet is rolled up so that said first edge of said sheet overlaps said second edge of said sheet and said piercing causes said penetrating elements to penetrate through said sheet in proximity of said first edge of said sheet and in proximity of said second edge of said sheet in

85. (canceled)

proximity of where said edges overlap.